

R E M A R K S

Claims 1 through 23 are in the application, with Claims 1, 4, 11, 16 and 20 being independent.

The pending claims are subject to a restriction requirement. In particular, the Office Action groups the claims into Claims 1 through 10 and 20 through 23 (Group I), and Claims 11 through 19 (Group II). Election of one of these Groups is required because the Groups are alleged to be distinct.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect the Group I claims, 1 through 10 and 20 through 23. Examination and allowance of the elected claims are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants therefore request examination of Claims 1 through 10 and 20 through 23 on the merits. In this regard, Claims 1 through 10 and 20 through 23 are believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

If there remains any question regarding the present application, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0049.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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